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Natural
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Conservation
Service

Montana
Basin Outlook Report
May 1, 2000

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Basin Outlook Reports
and
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How forecasts are made

Most of the annual streamflow in the Western United States originates as snowfall that has accumulated high in the mountains during winter and early spring. As the snowpack accumulates, hydrologists estimate the runoff that will occur when it melts. Predictions are based on careful measurements of snow water equivalent at selected index points. Precipitation, temperature, soil moisture and antecedent streamflow data are combined with snowpack data to prepare runoff forecasts. Streamflow forecasts are coordinated by Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Weather Service hydrologists. This report presents a comprehensive picture of water supply conditions for areas dependent upon surface runoff. It includes selected streamflow forecasts, summarized snowpack and precipitation data, reservoir storage data, and narratives describing current conditions.

Snowpack data are obtained by using a combination of manual and automated SNOTEL measurement methods. Manual readings of snow depth and water equivalent are taken at locations called snow courses on a monthly or semi-monthly schedule during the winter. In addition, snow water equivalent, precipitation and temperature are monitored on a daily basis and transmitted via meteor burst telemetry to central data collection facilities. Both monthly and daily data are used to project snowmelt runoff.

Forecast uncertainty originates from two sources: (1) uncertainty of future hydrologic and climatic conditions, and (2) error in the forecasting procedure. To express the uncertainty in the most probable forecast, four additional forecasts are provided. The actual streamflow can be expected to exceed the most probable forecast 50% of the time. Similarly, the actual streamflow volume can be expected to exceed the 90% forecast volume 90% of the time. The same is true for the 70%, 30%, and 10% forecasts. Generally, the 90% and 70% forecasts reflect drier than normal hydrologic and climatic conditions; the 30% and 10% forecasts reflect wetter than normal conditions. As the forecast season progresses, a greater portion of the future hydrologic and climatic uncertainty will become known and the additional forecasts will move closer to the most probable forecast.

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Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service)
Bozeman, Montana

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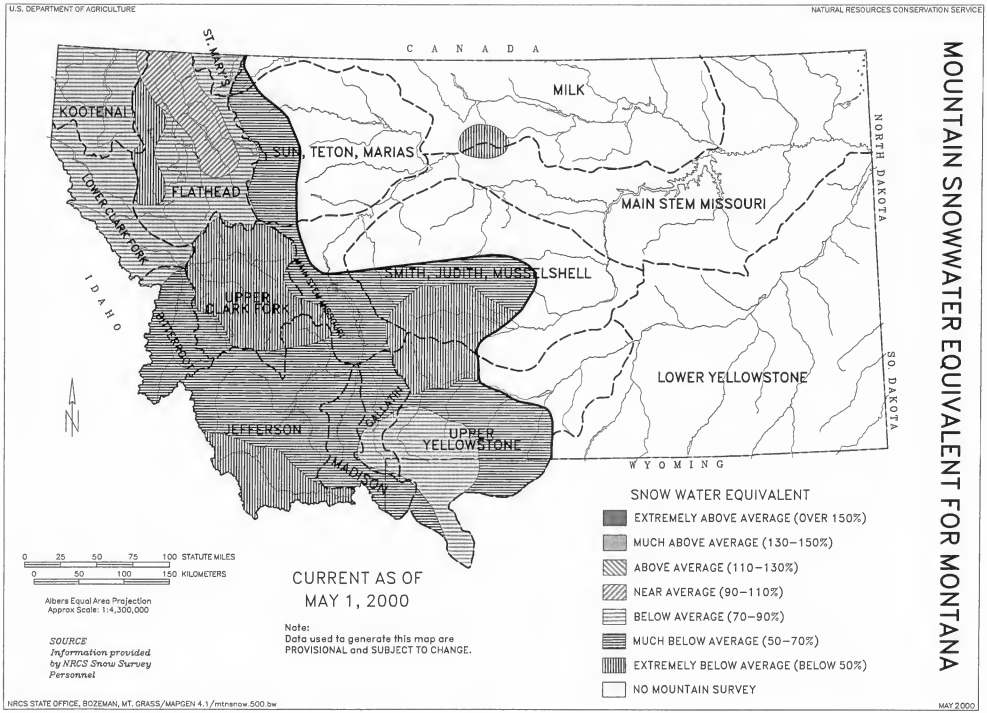
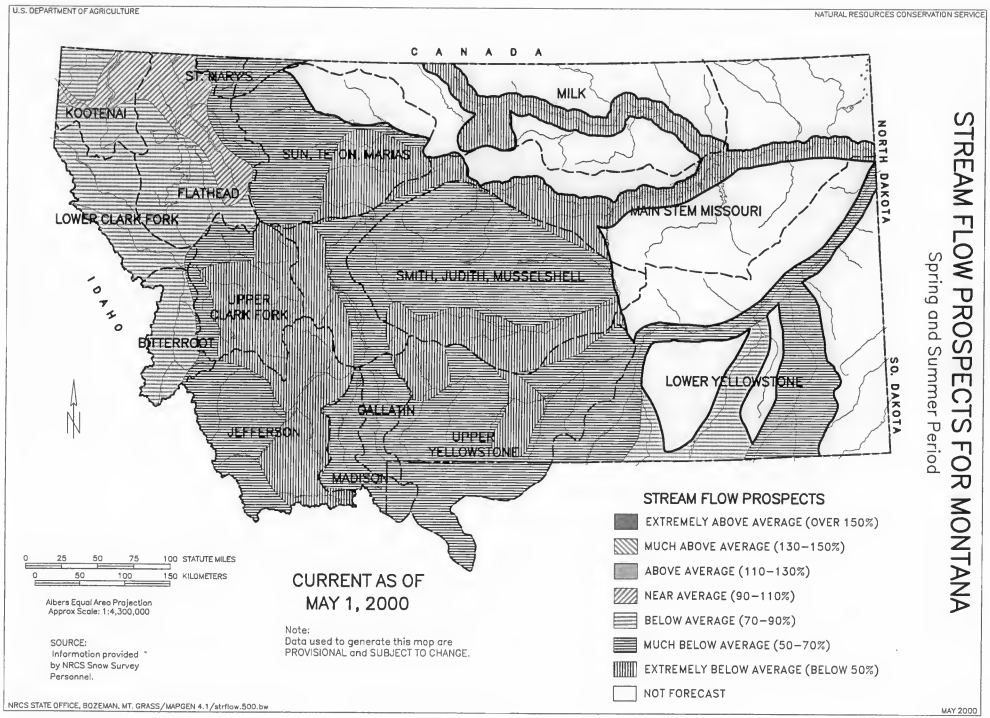

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
MOUNTAIN SNOWWATER EQUIVALENT FOR MONTANA
C A N A D A
ST. MARY
KOOTENAI
SUN, TETON, MARIAS
MILK
FLATHEAD
LOWER CLARK FORK
MAIN STEM MISSOURI
NORTH DAKOTA
SMITH, JUDITH, MUSSELSHELL
MIDDLE MISSOURI
UPPER CLARK FORK
I D A H O
BITTERROOT
LOWER YELLOWSTONE
SO. DAKOTA
JEFFERSON
TOBACCO
UPPER YELLOWSTONE
MADISON
W Y O M I N G
N
0 25 50 75 100 STATUTE MILES
0 50 100 150 KILOMETERS
Albers Equal Area Projection
Approx Scale: 1:4,300,000
SOURCE
Information provided by NRCS Snow Survey Personnel
CURRENT AS OF MAY 1, 2000
Note:
Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT
EXTREMELY ABOVE AVERAGE (OVER 150%)
MUCH ABOVE AVERAGE (130–150%)
ABOVE AVERAGE (110–130%)
NEAR AVERAGE (90–110%)
BELOW AVERAGE (70–90%)
MUCH BELOW AVERAGE (50–70%)
EXTREMELY BELOW AVERAGE (BELOW 50%)
NO MOUNTAIN SURVEY
NRCS STATE OFFICE, BOZEMAN, MT. GRASS/MAPGEN 4.1/mtnsnow.500.bw
MAY 2000

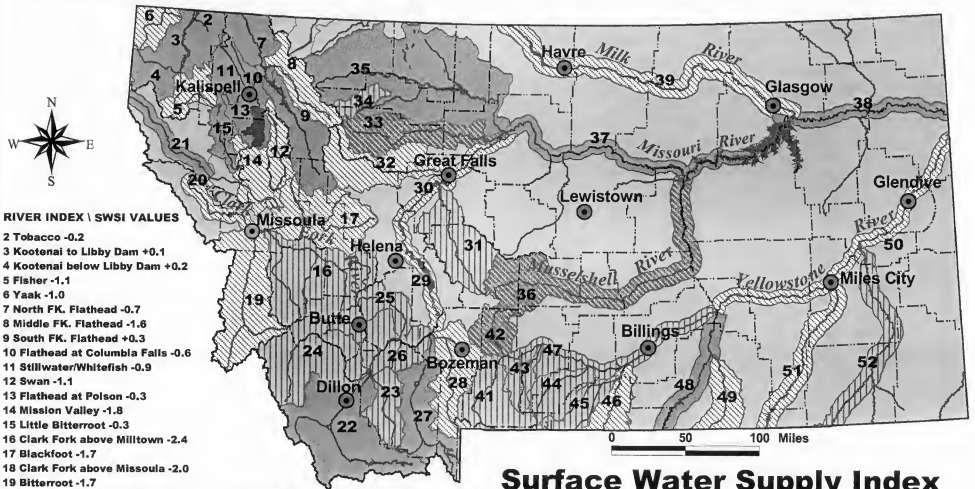


STREAM FLOW PROSPECTS FOR MONTANA

Spring and Summer Period

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE



RIVER INDEX \ SWSI VALUES

2 Tobacco -0.2
3 Kootenai to Libby Dam +0.1
4 Kootenai below Libby Dam +0.2
5 Fisher -1.1
6 Yaak -1.0
7 North FK. Flathead -0.7
8 Middle FK. Flathead -1.6
9 South FK. Flathead +0.3
10 Flathead at Columbia Falls -0.6
11 Stillwater/Whitefish -0.9
12 Swan -1.1
13 Flathead at Polson -0.3
14 Mission Valley -1.8
15 Little Bitterroot -0.3
16 Clark Fork above Milltown -2.4
17 Blackfoot -1.7
18 Clark Fork above Missoula -2.0
19 Bitterroot -1.7
20 Clark Fork below Bitterroot -1.9
21 Clark Fork below Flathead -0.9
22 Beaverhead -0.6
23 Ruby -2.9
24 Big Hole -2.9
25 Boulder(Jefferson) -2.9
26 Jefferson -2.4
27 Madison -0.8
28 Gallatin -1.6
29 Missouri above Canyon Ferry -1.7
30 Missouri below Canyon Ferry -1.5
31 Smith -2.7
32 Sun -1.2
33 Teton -3.0
34 Birch/Dupuyer Creeks -2.7
35 Marias -0.3
36 Musselshell -3.7
37 Missouri above Fort Peck -0.5
38 Missouri below Fort Peck -0.2
39 Milk -1.7
41 Yellowstone above Livingston -2.1
42 Shields -3.9
43 Boulder (Yellowstone) -2.3
44 Stillwater -2.0
45 Rock/Red Lodge Creeks -2.2
46 Clarks Fork -1.9
47 Yellowstone above Bighorn -2.1
48 Bighorn below Bighorn Lake -0.8
49 Little Bighorn -1.4
50 Yellowstone below Bighorn -1.5
51 Tongue -1.3
52 Powder -2.7

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) Values

Current as of May 1, 2000

SWSI VALUES

- Extremely Dry -4.0 to -3.0
- Moderately Dry -2.9 to -2.0
- Slightly Dry -1.9 to -1.0
- Near Average -0.9 to 0.9
- Sightly Wet 1.0 to 1.9
- Moderately Wet 2.0 to 2.9
- Extremely Wet 3.0 to 4.0
- SWSI Not Applicable

NOTE: Data used to generate this map are PROVISIONAL and SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service Montana

http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov

SUMMARY OF MONTANA SNOTEL AND SNOW COURSE DATA

MAY 2000

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
ABE LINCOLN	4440	4/26/00	32	15.7	24.9	--
ABUNDANCE LAKE	8800	4/30/00	46	19.4	26.7	22.6
ALBRO LAKE PILLOW	8300	5/01/00	---	11.5	22.4	23.9
AMBROSE	6480	4/27/00	12	4.5	14.0	12.1
ASHLEY LAKE	4000	4/29/00	0	.0	.0	1.2
ARCH FALLS	7350	4/27/00	31	10.7	12.6	13.7
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	4/29/00	0	.0	.3	1.0
BADGER PASS PILLOW	6900	5/01/00	---	26.1	47.0	37.8
BANFIELD MTN PILLOW	5600	5/01/00	---	13.8	23.9	18.3
BAREE CREEK	5500	4/26/00	82	37.9	58.8	43.0
BAREE MIDWAY	4600	4/26/00	70	29.9	46.4	29.4
BAREE TRAIL	3800	4/26/00	7	3.3	.0	1.3
BARKER LAKES PILLOW	8250	5/01/00	---	8.1	18.3	16.0
BASIN CREEK PILLOW	7180	5/01/00	---	5.4	9.4	10.0
BASSOO PEAK	5150	4/27/00	7	2.8	3.6	5.7
BEAGLE SPGS PILLOW	8850	5/01/00	---	3.7	15.6	8.8
BEAR BASIN	8150	4/26/00	45	17.6	19.0	22.0
BEAVER CREEK PILLOW	7850	5/01/00	---	13.3	20.2	20.5
BIG SNOWY	7150	4/28/00	49	20.1	20.8	24.3
BISSON CREEK PILLOW	4920	5/01/00	---	2.0	3.7	2.5
BLACK BEAR PILLOW	7950	5/01/00	---	34.4	52.2	39.8
BLACK MOUNTAIN	7750	4/24/00	30	10.5	16.7	17.8
BLACK PINE PILLOW	7100	5/01/00	---	2.6	11.8	12.0
BLACKTAIL	5650	5/02/00	12	5.0	13.2	7.0
BLOODY DICK PILLOW	7550	5/01/00	---	5.2	13.0	10.5
BLUE LAKE	5900	4/26/00	38	17.6	29.8	23.9
BOTS SOTS	7750	4/26/00	13	4.3	9.3	8.1
BOULDER MTN PILLOW	7950	5/01/00	---	12.2	22.7	21.7
BOX CANYON PILLOW	6700	5/01/00	---	.3	6.6	3.8
BOXELDER CREEK	5100	5/01/00	0	.0	3.6	2.2
BRACKETT CR PILLOW	7320	5/01/00	---	13.0	22.3	22.7
BRANHAM LAKES	8850	4/27/00	64	29.1	30.1	33.2
BRUSH CREEK TIMBER	5000	4/26/00	3	1.0	1.1	6.0
BULL MOUNTAIN	6600	4/27/00	0	.0	.8	3.1
CABIN CREEK	5200	4/26/00	0	.0	1.3	1.9
CALL ROAD	8050	4/30/00	22	8.1	11.0	13.0
CALVERT CR PILLOW	6430	5/01/00	---	.0	5.1	3.4
CAMP SENIA	7890	4/26/00	19	5.2	9.5	8.4
CARROT BASIN PILLOW	9000	5/01/00	---	24.6	35.5	31.2
CARTER CREEK	7400	4/26/00	0	.0	7.6	--
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	4/28/00	0	.0	.2	2.4
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	4/27/00	20	8.1	11.9	3.6
CLOVER MDW PILLOW	8800	5/01/00	---	16.1	20.7	19.0
COMBINATION PILLOW	5600	5/01/00	---	.0	.0	3.2
COPPER BOTTOM PILLOW	5200	5/01/00	---	1.5	7.1	8.1
COPPER CAMP PILLOW	6950	5/01/00	---	22.6	45.6	35.3
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	4/29/00	10	3.3	9.6	10.6

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
COLE CREEK PILLOW	7850	5/01/00	---	11.6	18.6	20.6
COYOTE HILL	4200	4/28/00	0	.0	1.0	3.0
CRYSTAL LAKE PILLOW	6050	5/01/00	---	9.1	7.9	10.9
DAD CREEK LAKE	8400	4/30/00	31	12.6	19.2	16.6
DAISY PEAK	7600	4/28/00	13	4.4	9.8	8.7
DAISY PEAK PILLOW	7600	5/01/00	---	7.2	11.3	12.6
DAISY PEAK	7600	4/28/00	13	4.4	9.8	8.7
DALY CREEK PILLOW	5780	5/01/00	---	.0	5.5	5.8
DARKHORSE LK. PILLOW	8700	5/01/00	---	30.1	34.6	35.3
DAVIS CREEK	5400	4/26/00	43	19.8	37.3	21.5
DEADMAN CR PILLOW	6450	5/01/00	---	3.1	5.3	6.9
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	4/27/00	13	5.2	9.4	10.0
DIVIDE PILLOW	7800	5/01/00	---	8.2	11.7	12.1
DIX HILL	6400	4/30/00	0	.0	.0	4.4
DUPUYER CREEK PILLOW	5750	5/01/00	---	.9	12.2	8.5
EAST FORK R.S.	5400	4/26/00	0	.0	.0	.9
ELK HORN SPRINGS	7800	4/30/00	7	2.5	8.5	7.7
ELK PEAK	8000	4/27/00	26	8.8	18.4	19.2
EMERY CREEK PILLOW	4350	5/01/00	---	7.8	8.2	8.5
FATTY CREEK	5500	4/30/00	46	19.2	21.9	23.6
FISHER CREEK PILLOW	9100	5/01/00	---	31.7	43.7	38.7
FIVE-BULL	5700	4/24/00	0	.0	2.1	3.2
FLATTOP MTN PILLOW	6300	5/01/00	---	40.5	58.3	48.4
FLEECER RIDGE	7500	4/27/00	8	3.4	10.7	8.4
FOOLHEN	8280	4/30/00	28	10.8	17.4	18.2
FOUR MILE	6900	4/26/00	6	2.0	6.4	6.9
FOURTH OF JULY	3450	4/27/00	0	.0	.0	1.0
FREIGHT CREEK	6000	4/26/00	18	7.4	18.4	13.2
FROHNER MDWS PILLOW	6480	5/01/00	---	1.0	6.8	7.1
GARVER CREEK PILLOW	4250	5/01/00	---	2.6	7.9	3.3
GARVER CREEK	4250	4/26/00	10	3.0E	8.9	4.0
GOAT MOUNTAIN	7000	4/27/00	13	5.4	8.9	8.6
GOLD STONE	8100	4/30/00	30	13.1	17.8	18.0
GRASSHOPPER	7000	4/27/00	0	.0	2.8	4.6
GRAVE CRK PILLOW	4300	5/01/00	---	6.8	9.4	9.0
GRIFFIN CR DIVIDE	5150	4/27/00	4	1.8	3.4	6.3
HAND CREEK PILLOW	5030	5/01/00	---	1.6	6.3	8.3
HAWKINS LAKE PILLOW	6450	5/01/00	---	20.0	41.0	30.4
HEBGEN DAM	6550	4/24/00	10	3.8	7.0	6.8
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	4/27/00	63	29.3	30.1	30.1
HERRIG JUNCTION	4850	4/27/00	50	22.6	30.4	23.2
HOLBROOK	4530	4/27/00	0	.0	.0	1.7
HOODOO BASIN PILLOW	6050	5/01/00	---	36.4	63.0	47.2
ICEBERG LAKE NO 3	5600	4/27/00	52	24.8	39.8	29.2
INDEPENDENCE	7850	4/26/00	31	12.0	19.1	17.0
INTERGAARD	6450	4/26/00	0	.0	5.8	7.2
JOHNSON PARK	6450	4/28/00	0	.0	.0	2.3
JOSEPHINE LOWER NO 9	4900	4/26/00	30	13.3	23.7	15.1
KRAFT CREEK PILLOW	4750	5/01/00	---	5.9	5.3	5.8
LAKE CREEK	6100	4/30/00	0	.0	.0	3.1
LAKEVIEW CANYON	6930	4/28/00	9	2.8	13.9	11.0
LAKEVIEW RDG. PILLOW	7400	5/01/00	---	3.1	15.3	9.2
LEMHI RIDGE PILLOW	8100	5/01/00	---	4.8	11.8	10.8

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
LICK CREEK PILLOW	6860	5/01/00	---	7.0	9.9	11.2
LITTLE PARK	7400	4/26/00	29	11.2	14.2	16.4
LOGAN CREEK	4300	4/26/00	3	.9	1.0	2.2
LONE MOUNTAIN PILLOW	8880	5/01/00	---	17.4	23.3	20.8
LOWER TWIN PILLOW	7900	5/01/00	---	14.0	19.6	21.9
LUBRECHT PILLOW	4680	5/01/00	---	.0	.0	1.7
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 3	5450	4/29/00	0	.0	.4	3.0
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 4	4650	4/29/00	0	.0	.0	.2
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 6	4040	4/29/00	0	.0	.0	.1
LUBRECHT HYDROPLOT	4200	4/29/00	0	.0	.0	.1
MADISON PLT PILLOW	7750	5/01/00	---	16.0	30.4	23.8
MANY GLACIER PILLOW	4900	5/01/00	---	.0	5.5	8.0
MARIAS PASS	5250	4/27/00	24	11.0	17.9	14.4
MAYNARD CREEK	6210	4/27/00	17	6.5	14.0	15.2
MIDDLE MILL CREEK	7850	4/27/00	27	11.7	13.8	16.6
MILL CREEK	7500	4/25/00	26	9.6	11.2	11.0
MINERAL CREEK	4000	4/29/00	26	11.5	11.9	11.2
MONUMENT PK PILLOW	8850	5/01/00	---	20.7	28.4	23.8
MOSS PEAK PILLOW	6780	5/01/00	---	34.5	41.9	41.8
MOUNT ALLEN NO 7	5700	4/26/00	102	47.5	69.0	43.8
MT LOCKHART PILLOW	6400	5/01/00	---	14.7	27.5	21.9
MULE CREEK PILLOW	8300	5/01/00	---	16.1	19.6	17.0
NEVADA RIDGE PILLOW	7020	5/01/00	---	10.7	17.8	13.3
NEWTON MOUNTAIN	5600	4/27/00	72	34.3	50.9	35.4
NEZ PERCE CMP PILLOW	5650	5/01/00	---	7.4	13.5	11.7
NEZ PERCE CREEK	6600	4/29/00	0	.0	2.0	3.4
NEZ PERCE PASS	6570	4/26/00	27	11.5	12.6	15.6
NOISY BASIN PILLOW	6040	5/01/00	---	41.8	44.4	44.0
N.F. ELK CR PILLOW	6250	5/01/00	---	3.5	9.2	9.6
NF JOCKO PILLOW	6330	5/01/00	---	36.3	46.3	46.3
N.E. ENTRANCE PILLOW	7350	5/01/00	---	.2	6.3	5.9
NOTCH	8500	4/30/00	36	14.5	19.0	18.5
OPHIR PARK	7150	4/30/00	19	7.9	14.8	17.4
PETERSON MDW PILLOW	7200	5/01/00	---	5.6	12.8	11.3
PICKFOOT CRK PILLOW	6650	5/01/00	---	.0	3.7	4.8
PIEGAN PASS NO 6	5500	4/26/00	75	32.6	61.2	37.5
PIKE CREEK PILLOW	5930	5/01/00	---	17.6	33.2	27.8
PIPESTONE PASS	7200	4/29/00	0	.0	7.0	5.0
PLACER BASIN PILLOW	8830	5/01/00	---	16.5	22.3	21.2
PORCUPINE PILLOW	6500	5/01/00	---	.0	.5	3.9
POTOMAGETON PARK	7150	4/27/00	0	.0	8.6	9.4
PTARMIGAN	5800	4/27/00	65	30.1	46.1	36.2
RED MOUNTAIN	6000	4/28/00	29	13.1	22.0	17.5
RED TOP	5260	4/27/00	58	27.0	40.3	28.8
REVAIS CREEK	4800	4/25/00	0	.0	.0	.0
ROCK CREEK	5600	4/28/00	0	.0	1.6	5.4
ROCK CREEK MEADOW	8160	4/26/00	57	17.1	22.7	24.2
ROCKER PEAK PILLOW	8000	5/01/00	---	11.0	15.6	17.7
ROCKY BOY PILLOW	4700	5/01/00	---	.0	.0	1.9
ROCKY BOY	4700	5/01/00	0	.0	.0	1.4
SACAJAWEA	6550	4/27/00	10	3.7	12.5	12.7
SADDLE MTN PILLOW	7900	5/01/00	---	17.1	28.7	27.6
SHORT CREEK PILLOW	7000	5/01/00	---	2.3	5.5	2.0
SHOWER FALLS PILLOW	8100	5/01/00	---	22.9	24.3	28.0

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-90
SKALKAHO PILLOW	7260	5/01/00	---	18.2	30.1	26.2
SLIDE ROCK MOUNTAIN	7100	4/26/00	21	7.5	19.8	17.2
SMUGGLER MINE	6960	4/27/00	10	3.5	6.2	9.0
S.F. SHIELDS PILLOW	8100	5/01/00	---	12.5	20.2	19.1
SPOTTED BEAR MTN.	7000	4/26/00	19	8.0	9.6	9.6
SPUR PARK PILLOW	8100	5/01/00	---	18.8	26.3	23.6
SLEEPING WOMAN PILL	6150	5/01/00	---	9.1	18.0	14.9
STAHL PEAK PILLOW	6030	5/01/00	---	33.4	44.5	36.5
STEMPLE PASS	6600	4/28/00	19	6.7	8.4	10.3
STORM LAKE	7780	4/27/00	24	9.6	16.6	15.0
STRYKER BASIN	6180	4/27/00	71	32.4	38.6	35.8
STUART MOUNTAIN	7400	4/30/00	57	24.4	37.8	32.3
STUART MOUNTAIN PILL	7400	5/01/00	---	26.9	39.8	30.4
SUCKER CREEK	3960	5/01/00	0	.0	.0	.3
TAYLOR ROAD	4080	5/01/00	0	.0	.0	.5
TEN MILE LOWER	6600	4/28/00	0	.0	2.0	5.4
TEN MILE MIDDLE	6800	4/28/00	14	4.5	8.6	12.4
TEPEE CREEK PILLOW	8000	5/01/00	---	12.0	16.9	13.0
TIMBERLINE CREEK	8850	4/26/00	42	13.8	19.3	17.8
TIZER BASIN PILLOW	6840	5/01/00	---	.7	7.5	10.3
TRAIL CREEK	7090	4/30/00	0	.0	4.5	6.3
TRINKUS LAKE	6100	4/26/00	84	38.9	46.0	43.1
TRUMAN CREEK	4060	4/29/00	0	.0	.0	.6
TV MOUNTAIN	6800	4/30/00	25	11.0	19.8	18.7
TWELVEMILE PILLOW	5600	5/01/00	---	.0	10.2	12.4
TWENTY-ONE MILE	7150	4/30/00	16	6.7	15.1	14.8
TWIN CREEKS	3580	4/26/00	7	3.0	2.9	1.8
TWIN LAKES PILLOW	6400	5/01/00	---	31.9	51.8	39.8
UPPER HOLLAND LAKE	6200	4/26/00	79	35.1	37.8	35.2
WALDRON PILLOW	5600	5/01/00	---	2.5	11.8	6.5
WARM SPRINGS PILLOW	7800	5/01/00	---	16.8	24.9	24.9
WEASEL DIVIDE	5450	4/27/00	66	31.0	40.2	33.6
WEST YELLOWSTONE	6700	4/30/00	0	.0	9.0	7.1
WEST YELL'ST PILLOW	6700	5/01/00	---	.0	7.2	6.8
WHISKEY CREEK PILLOW	6800	5/01/00	---	9.5	20.5	15.2
WHITE MILL PILLOW	8700	5/01/00	---	25.3	30.1	26.3
WHITE PINE RIDGE	8850	4/30/00	0	.0	7.1	5.8
WILLOW CREEK	6500	4/25/00	7	2.4	3.6	4.4
WOOD CREEK PILLOW	5960	5/01/00	---	4.7	11.2	8.6
WRONG CREEK	5700	4/25/00	13	5.4	8.3	9.2
WRONG RIDGE	6800	4/26/00	33	13.8	17.8	18.6

Montana Water Supply Outlook Report as of May 1, 2000

Montana had below to well below average April precipitation. The exception was in the north eastern part where there was near normal precipitation. Temperatures were generally near to 2 degrees above average in the northern and eastern parts with 3 to 6 degrees above average in south west and south central Montana.

Snowpack

In Montana, mountain snow water contents were ranging from severely below average to near average. Mountain snow water content was 70 percent of average and 62 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, snowpack was 75 percent of average and 64 percent of last year and East of the continental Divide, snowpack was 67 percent of average and 58 percent of last year. Snowpack extremes were the highest in the Kootenai River Basin at 89 percent of average and 64 percent of last year, and the lowest in the Musselshell River Basin at 38 percent of average and 48 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	75	64
KOOTENAI	89	64
FLATHEAD	82	75
UPPER CLARK FORK	56	55
BITTERROOT	61	54
LOWER CLARK FORK	84	62
MISSOURI	61	58
MISSOURI HEADWATERS	62	59
JEFFERSON	60	57
MADISON	66	59
GALLATIN	68	70
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	56	55
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	47	52
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	56	65
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	61	51
MAINSTEM ABOVE FT. PECK RES	57	55
MILK (Bearpaw Mtns.)	0	0
ST. MARY	87	63
ST. MARY & MILK	85	63
YELLOWSTONE	68	57
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	68	61
LOWER YELLOWSTONE (WYOMING)	69	54
WIND	59	37
SHOSHONE	70	55
BIGHORN	71	59
TONGUE	83	85
POWDER	62	56

Precipitation

April mountain and valley precipitation across the state was 73 percent of average and 90 percent of last year, while the water year precipitation was 90 percent of average and 84 percent of last year. West of the Continental Divide, April mountain and valley precipitation was 71 percent of average and 132 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 97 percent of average and 89 percent of last year. East of the Divide, April mountain and valley precipitation was 74 percent of average and 75 percent of last year and the water year precipitation was 84 percent of average and 80 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	APRIL % OF AVERAGE	WATER YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	71	97
KOOTENAI	79	102
FLATHEAD	72	104
UPPER CLARK FORK	64	85
BITTERROOT	55	91
LOWER CLARK FORK	86	100
MISSOURI	72	83
JEFFERSON	66	80
MADISON	69	84
GALLATIN	74	83
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	64	70
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	90	83
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	59	95
MILK	94	85
ST. MARY	80	105
YELLOWSTONE	79	86
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	78	86
LOWER YELLOWSTONE (WYOMING)	95	89
WIND	95	81
SHOSHONE	82	94
BIGHORN	94	92
TONGUE	106	99
POWDER	108	96

Reservoirs

Major reservoir storage statewide was 105 percent of average and 114 percent of last year. Reservoir storage west of the Continental Divide was 104 percent of average and 118 percent of last year. East of the Continental Divide, reservoir storages were 105 percent of average and 108 percent of last year.

RIVER BASIN	% OF AVERAGE	% OF LAST YEAR
COLUMBIA	104	118
KOOTENAI	88	122
FLATHEAD	113	117
UPPER CLARK FORK	116	125
BITTERROOT	116	139
LOWER CLARK FORK	154	99
MISSOURI	104	107
JEFFERSON	109	103
MADISON	120	129
GALLATIN	104	92
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	98	106
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	92	79
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	117	106
MILK	78	105
ST. MARY	38	76
YELLOWSTONE	111	115
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	103	100
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	111	115

Streamflow

SEASONAL STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Statewide, streamflows are forecast to average between 62 and 82 percent. West of the Continental Divide, streamflows are forecast to average between 67 and 84 percent of average and east of the Continental Divide, streamflows are forecast to average between 61 and 82 percent of average. Without above average precipitation for the next two months there could be surface water shortages by mid summer, with some areas near or below record low volumes for the period May through July.

Below are River Basin streamflow forecast summaries for the period May 1 through July 31. THESE FORECASTS ASSUME NEAR NORMAL SPRING CONDITIONS AND DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR WELL BELOW AVERAGE (70% or less) OR WELL ABOVE AVERAGE (130% or more) SNOWMELT OR SPRING RAIN. Specific forecast probabilities are available in each individual River Basin Report.

RIVER BASIN	May-July THIS YEAR % OF AVERAGE	May-July LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE
COLUMBIA	67 to 84	103 to 121
KOOTENAI	83 to 98	106 to 123
FLATHEAD	79 to 92	102 to 114
UPPER CLARK FORK	48 to 76	94 to 123
BITTERROOT	63 to 83	106 to 126
LOWER CLARK FORK	62 to 73	105 to 119
MISSOURI	51 to 78	93 to 126
JEFFERSON	36 to 70	80 to 136
MADISON	73 to 86	112 to 124
GALLATIN	76 to 93	86 to 103
MISSOURI MAINSTEM	39 to 76	93 to 131
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	45 to 80	84 to 126
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	51 to 88	104 to 139
MILK	20 to 49	85 to 137
ST. MARY	71 to 83	102 to 115
YELLOWSTONE	60 to 85	93 to 118
UPPER YELLOWSTONE	65 to 84	99 to 118
LOWER YELLOWSTONE	56 to 86	97 to 125

NOTE: The MAY-JULY LAST YEAR % OF AVERAGE column above is last years forecasts on May 1, NOT of what actually occurred.

Peak Streamflow Forecasts

WATERSHED	SNOWMELT PEAK FLOW DATES
COLUMBIA RIVER	
Fisher and Yaak Rivers	May 1 to May 7
North Fork Flathead River near Columbia Falls	May 14 to May 14
Middle Fork Flathead River near West Glacier	May 14 to May 21
Hungry Horse Reservoir inflow	May 12 to May 23
Lower Willow and Nevada CK. Res. inflow	Peaked on April 22
Swan River	May 23 to May 29
Blackfoot River near Bonner	May 7 to May 13
Clark Fork above Missoula	May 9 to May 15
Clark Fork below Missoula	May 9 to May 15
Bitterroot River near Darby	May 7 to May 13
Middle Fork Rock Creek	May 11 to May 17
MISSOURI RIVER	
Clark Canyon Res. inflow	May 12 to May 19
Ruby Res. inflow	May 17 to May 23
Big Hole near Melrose	May 10 to May 16
Hebgen Res. inflow	May 10 to May 16
Gallatin River	May 26 to June 3
Missouri at Toston	May 18 to May 24
Sheep Creek near White Sulphur Springs	May 3 to May 9
Smith River near Eagle Creek	May 3 to May 9
Gibson Reservoir inflow	May 10 to May 19
Swift Reservoir inflow	May 12 to May 20
YELLOWSTONE RIVER	
All forecast stations above Billings	May 23 to June 3

PEAK STREAMFLOW FORECASTS FOR UNREGULATED STREAMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

	PEAK RANGE IN DAILY CFS	PEAK RANGE AS PERCENT OF AVERAGE	AVERAGE DAILY PEAK IN CFS
COLUMBIA RIVER			
Fisher Creek nr Libby	1,400 to 2,300	57 to 93	2,466
Yaak River nr Troy	3,200 to 5,900	53 to 95	6,021
Blackfoot near Bonner	4,500 to 7,500	47 to 78	9,588
Clark Fork ab Missoula	6,000 to 10,000	36 to 60	16,738
Bitterroot near Darby	2,800 to 5,000	45 to 80	6,229
Clark Fork blw Missoula	10,000 to 20,000	31 to 63	31,992
Clark Fork at St. Regis	16,000 to 28,000	40 to 70	39,984
North Fork Flathead near Columbia Falls	10,500 to 16,000	50 to 76	21,189
Middle Fork Flathead near West Glacier	11,000 to 16,500	49 to 73	22,463
Hungry Horse Res Inflow	19,000 to 24,200	66 to 85	28,600
Swan at Big Fork	3,000 to 5,000	57 to 96	5,228
Nevada Creek near Finn	30 to 200	9 to 60	334
Middle Fork Rock Creek near Philipsburg	230 to 500	27 to 59	853
MISSOURI RIVER			
Big Hole near Melrose	1,800 to 3,800	22 to 47	8,015
Inflow Clark Canyon Dam	250 to 800	-- to --	-----
Inflow Ruby Reservoir	85 to 480	8 to 46	1,037
Inflow Hebgen Reservoir	2,300 to 3,100	67 to 90	3,442
Gallatin near Gateway	3,400 to 4,400	63 to 82	5,389
Gallatin near Logan	2,500 to 4,100	45 to 73	5,581
Missouri at Toston	7,000 to 13,000	37 to 68	19,042
Marias near Shelby	2,000 to 4,800	17 to 42	11,516
Inflow Gibson Reservoir	4,400 to 6,100	-- to --	-----
Inflow Swift Reservoir	380 to 610	-- to --	-----
Sheep Creek near White Sulphur Springs	130 to 200	61 to 94	212
S. Fk. Musselshell above Martinsdale	140 to 300	11 to 24	1,229
YELLOWSTONE RIVER			
Yellowstone at Corwin Springs	9,800 to 15,000	56 to 86	17,532
Yellowstone at Livingston	10,500 to 16,500	51 to 80	20,732
Boulder near Big Timber	3,100 to 4,700	59 to 90	5,226
Stillwater nr Absarokee	2,900 to 5,500	44 to 83	6,601
Clarks Fork near Belfry	4,500 to 7,000	58 to 91	7,706
Yellowstone at Billings	19,000 to 30,000	44 to 70	42,716

NOTE: The low number in the flow range represents the maximum daily flow that would be expected to occur with little rainfall during the peak snowmelt period. The high number in the flow range could be expected with moderate amounts of rain about the same time as maximum snowmelt runoff is occurring.

Surface Water Supply Index

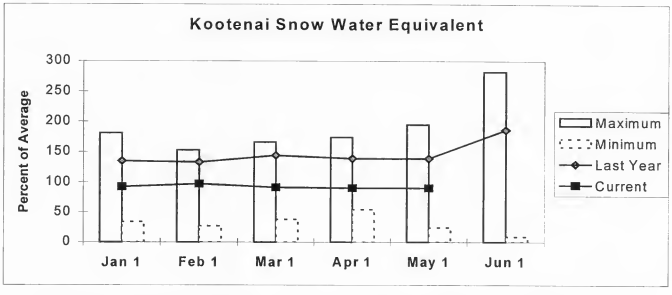
The Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) is an indicator of surface water supply conditions for the spring and summer months. Water users that rely on mountain precipitation can use the index to evaluate seasonal surface water supplies. The SWSI accounts for mountain snowpack, mountain precipitation, streamflow, reservoir storage, and soil moisture.

SWSI RATING	SURFACE WATER CONDITION
+3.0 to +4.0	Extremely Wet
+2.0 to +3.0	Moderately Wet
+1.0 to +2.0	Slightly Wet
-1.0 to +1.0	Near Average
-1.0 to -2.0	Slightly Dry
-2.0 to -3.0	Moderately Dry
-3.0 to -4.0	Extremely Dry

SWSI	Basin
+0.4	Kootenai River at Ft. Steele (Kootenai in Canada)
-0.2	Tobacco River
+0.1	Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam
+0.2	Kootenai River below Libby Dam
-1.1	Fisher River
-1.0	Yaak River
-0.7	North Fork Flathead River
-1.6	Middle FORK Flathead River
+0.3	South Fork Flathead River
-0.6	Flathead River at Columbia Falls
-0.9	Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers
-1.1	Swan River
-0.3	Flathead River at Polson
-2.0	Mission Valley
-0.3	Little Bitterroot River
-2.4	Clark Fork River above Rock Creek
-1.7	Blackfoot River
-2.0	Clark Fork River above Missoula
-1.7	Bitterroot River
-1.9	Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River
-0.9	Clark Fork River below Flathead River
-0.6	Beaverhead River
-2.4	Ruby River
-2.9	Big Hole River
-2.9	Boulder River (Jefferson)
-2.4	Jefferson River
-0.8	Madison River
-1.6	Gallatin River
-1.7	Missouri River above Canyon Ferry
-1.5	Missouri River below Canyon Ferry
-2.7	Smith River
-1.2	Sun River
-3.0	Teton River
-2.7	Birch/Dupuyer Creeks
-0.3	Marias River
-3.7	Musselshell River
-0.5	Missouri River above Ft. Peck
-0.2	Missouri River below Ft. Peck
-1.7	Milk River
-2.1	Yellowstone River above Livingston
-3.9	Shields River
-2.3	Boulder River (Yellowstone)
-2.0	Stillwater River
-2.2	Rock/Red Lodge Creeks
-1.9	Clarks Fork River
-2.1	Yellowstone River above Bighorn River
-0.8	Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake
-1.4	Little Bighorn River
-1.5	Yellowstone River below Bighorn River
-1.3	Tongue River
-2.7	Powder River

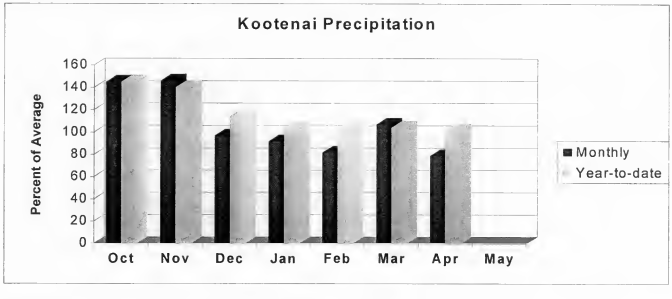
Kootenai River Basin in Montana

Snowpack conditions in the Kootenai River Basin were below average. Snow water content was 89 percent of average and 64 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 79 percent of average and 138 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 84 percent of average and 193 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 97 percent of average and 121 percent of last year.



Lake Koocanusa storage was 88 percent of average and 122 percent of last year.

The Fisher River near Libby is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 1 and May 7 with daily peak flows ranging from 1,400 cfs to 2,300 cfs or 57 to 93 percent of average and the Yaak River near Troy is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 1 and May 7 with daily peak flows ranging from 3,200 to 5,900 cfs or 53 to 95 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was +0.4 in the Kootenai at Ft. Steele (Kootenai in Canada); -0.2 in the Tobacco River; +0.6 in the Kootenai Ft. Steele to Libby Dam; +0.1 in the Kootenai River below Libby Dam; -1.1 in the Fisher River; and -1.0 in the Yaak River.

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Watter ======>> 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * 50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
TOBACCO RIVER nr Eureka	MAY-JUL	75	93	105	96	117	135	110
	MAY-SEP	85	106	120	97	134	155	124
LIBBY RES Inflow (1,2)	MAY-JUL	4718	5135	5325	101	5515	5932	5301
	MAY-SEP	5617	6052	6250	99	6448	6883	6294
FISHER RIVER nr Libby	MAY-JUL	75	105	125	77	145	175	163
	MAY-SEP	86	118	140	78	162	194	179
YAAK RIVER nr Troy	MAY-JUL	214	259	290	78	321	366	372
	MAY-SEP	225	273	305	77	337	385	394
KOOTENAI at Leonia (1,2)	MAY-JUL	5660	6186	6425	101	6664	7190	6390
	MAY-SEP	6549	7134	7400	99	7666	8251	7466

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LAKE KOOCANUSA	5748.0	2110.0	1725.0	2409.0

KOOTENAI RIVER BASIN in Montana
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
KOOTENAY in CANADA	23	75	91
KOOTENAI MAINTSTEM	4	63	97
TOBACCO	3	76	90
FISHER	5	65	84
YAAK	8	58	84
KOOTENAI in MONTANA	19	64	89
KOOTENAI ab BONNERS FERRY	42	68	90

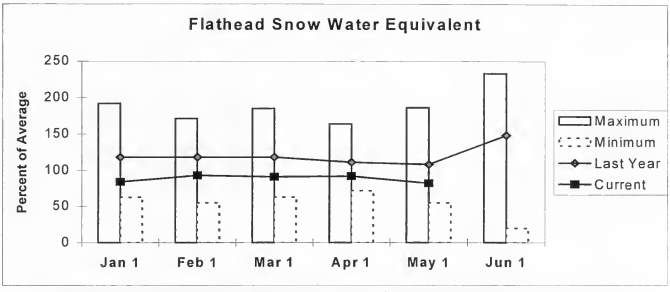
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

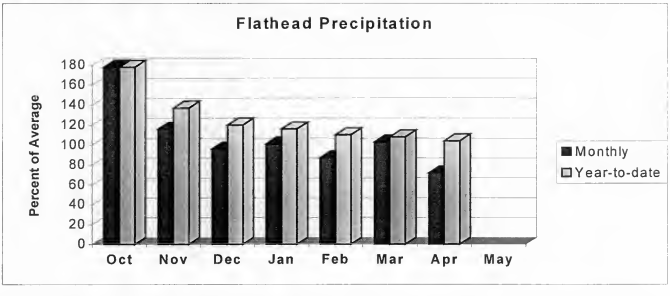
Flathead River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Flathead River Basin were below average. Snow water content was 82 percent of average and 75 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1992; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 72 percent of average and 154 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 70 percent of average and 857 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 104 percent of average and 100 percent of last year.



Combined Camas reservoir storage was 125 percent of average and 85 percent of last year; combined Mission Valley reservoir storage was 78 percent of average and 153 percent of last year; Hungry Horse storage was 114 percent of average and 116 percent of last year; and Flathead Lake storage was 114 percent of average and 120 percent of last year.

The North Fork Flathead near Columbia Falls is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 14 and May 24 with daily peak flows ranging from 10,500 cfs to 16,000 cfs or 50 to 76 percent of average; the Middle Fork Flathead near West Glacier is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 14 and May 21 with daily peak flows ranging from 11,000 cfs to 16,500 cfs or 49 to 73 percent of average; inflow to Hungry Horse Reservoir is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 12 and May 23 with daily peak flows ranging from 19,000 to 24,200 or 66 to 85 percent of average; and the Swan near Big Fork is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 23 and May 29 with daily peak flows ranging from 3,000 cfs to 5,000 cfs or 57 to 96 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.7 in the North Fork Flathead River; -1.6 in the Middle Fork Flathead River; +0.3 in the South Fork Flathead River; -0.6 in the Flathead River at Columbia Falls; -0.9 in the Stillwater/Whitefish Rivers; -1.1 in the Swan River; -0.3 in the Flathead River at Polson; -2.0 in the Mission Valley; and -0.4 in the Little Bitterroot River.

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
NF FLATHEAD nr Columbia Falls	MAY-JUL	1091	1221	1310	89	1399	1529	1474
	MAY-SEP	1234	1381	1480	90	1579	1726	1648
MF FLATHEAD nr West Glacier	MAY-JUL	1060	1167	1240	85	1313	1420	1454
	MAY-SEP	1167	1288	1370	85	1452	1573	1604
HUNGRY HORSE Reservoir Inflow (1,2)	MAY-JUL	1280	1500	1600	90	1700	1920	1777
	MAY-SEP	1397	1626	1730	91	1834	2063	1911
FLATHEAD at Columbia Falls (2)	MAY-JUL	3581	4009	4300	89	4591	5019	4816
	MAY-SEP	3939	4416	4740	90	5064	5541	5294
STILLWATER nr Whitefish	MAY-JUL	74	101	120	77	139	166	155
	MAY-SEP	83	114	135	78	156	187	174
WHITEFISH nr Kalispell	MAY-JUL	55	67	76	82	84	96	92
	MAY-SEP	63	77	87	83	97	111	105
SWAN RIVER nr Bigfork	MAY-JUL	374	407	430	88	453	486	491
	MAY-SEP	429	471	500	87	529	571	574
FLATHEAD Lake Inflow (1,2)	MAY-JUL	4179	4689	4920	88	5151	5661	5578
	MAY-SEP	4500	5140	5430	89	5720	6360	6114

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CANAS (4)	45.2	35.6	42.1	28.5
MISSION VALLEY (8)	100.0	38.8	25.3	49.7
HUNGRY HORSE	3451.0	2323.0	2009.0	2043.0
FLATHEAD LAKE	1791.0	1064.0	884.6	937.2

FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
NF FLATHEAD in CANADA	4	58	80
NF FLATHEAD in MONTANA	8	76	88
MIDDLE FORK FLATHEAD	5	63	75
SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD	7	90	94
STILLWATER-WHITEFISH	10	79	83
SWAN	7	87	88
MISSION VALLEY	4	75	81
LITTLE BITTERROOT-ASHLEY	6	47	44
JOCKO	5	67	76
FLATHEAD in MONTANA	38	75	82
FLATHEAD RIVER BASIN	42	74	82

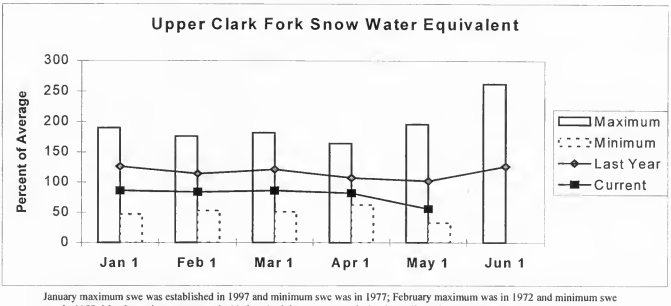
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

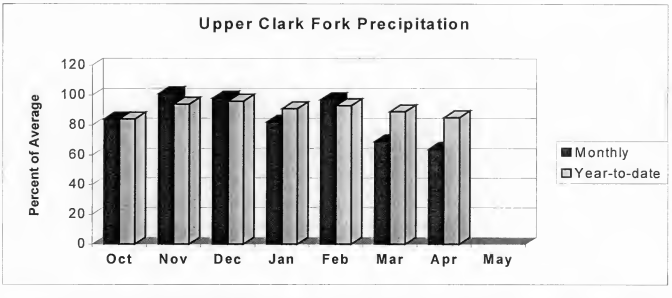
Upper Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin were near average. Snow water content was 59 percent of average and 55 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1994; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 63 percent of average and 94 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 76 percent of average and 118 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 85 percent of average and 80 percent of last year.



Lower Willow Creek storage was 124 percent of average and 117 percent of last year; and Nevada Creek storage was 114 percent of average and 127 percent of last year.

The Blackfoot near Bonner is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 7 and May 13 with daily peak flows ranging from 4,500 cfs to 7,500 cfs or 47 to 78 percent of average; the Clark Fork above Missoula is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 9 and May 15 with daily peak flows ranging from 10,000 cfs to 20,000 cfs or 31 to 63 percent of average; inflow into Lower Willow Creek Reservoir peaked April 22; Nevada Creek near Finn is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 2 and May 5 with daily peak flows ranging from 30 cfs to 200 cfs or 9 to 60 percent of average; and Middle Fork Rock Creek near Phillipsburg is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 11 and May 17 with daily peak flows ranging from 230 cfs to 500 cfs or 27 to 59 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.4 in the Clark Fork River above Milltown; -1.7 in the Blackfoot River; and -2.0 in the Clark Fork River above Missoula.

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
WARM SPRINGS CK at Anaconda	MAY-JUL	6.2	13.2	18.0	50	23	30	36
	MAY-SEP	9.6	17.3	23	51	28	35	44
LITTLE BLACKFOOT nr Garrison	MAY-JUL	12.3	15.0	29	42	43	64	69
	MAY-SEP	10.9	14.3	32	42	50	76	76
FLINT CREEK nr Southern Cross	MAY-JUL	0.3	3.5	5.7	47	7.9	11.1	12.1
	MAY-SEP	1.8	3.9	6.7	46	9.5	13.6	14.7
FLINT CREEK blw Boulder Ck	MAY-JUL	4.3	17.8	27	54	36	50	50
	MAY-SEP	9.9	26	37	56	48	64	66
LOWER WILLOW CK RES Inflow	MAY-JUL	1.7	2.6	3.7	33	5.7	8.6	11.4
	MAY-SEP	1.7	2.5	4.0	33	6.3	9.6	12.3
MF ROCK CREEK nr Philipsburg	MAY-JUL	32	42	48	77	54	64	62
	MAY-SEP	36	46	53	77	60	70	69
ROCK CREEK nr Clinton	MAY-JUL	87	131	160	61	189	233	264
	MAY-SEP	106	153	185	62	217	264	300
NEVADA CREEK nr Finn	MAY-JUL	3.8	7.4	10.0	66	12.6	16.5	15.2
	MAY-SEP	4.7	8.8	11.5	68	14.2	18.3	16.9
CLEARWATER nr Clearwater	MAY-JUL	83	102	115	87	128	147	133
	MAY-SEP	86	106	120	85	134	154	142
BLACKFOOT RIVER nr Bonner	MAY-JUL	412	518	590	83	662	768	714
	MAY-SEP	478	592	670	83	748	862	805
CLARK FORK abv Milltown	MAY-JUL	122	258	350	64	442	578	549
	MAY-SEP	165	317	420	64	523	675	652
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	MAY-JUL	661	827	940	74	1053	1219	1263
	MAY-SEP	798	975	1095	75	1215	1392	1457

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GEORGETOWN LAKE		NO REPORT		
LOWER WILLOW CREEK	4.9	4.1	3.5	3.3
NEVADA CREEK	12.6	11.6	9.1	10.2

UPPER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
CLARK FORK ab FLINT CREEK	12	57	52
FLINT CREEK	6	41	39
ROCK CREEK	5	49	56
CLARK FORK ab BLACKFOOT	20	50	49
BLACKFOOT	15	61	63
UPPER CLARK FORK BASIN	33	55	56

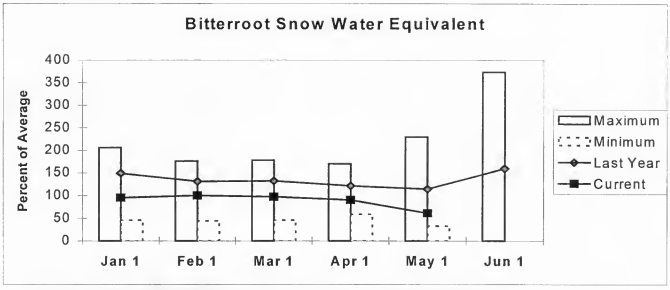
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

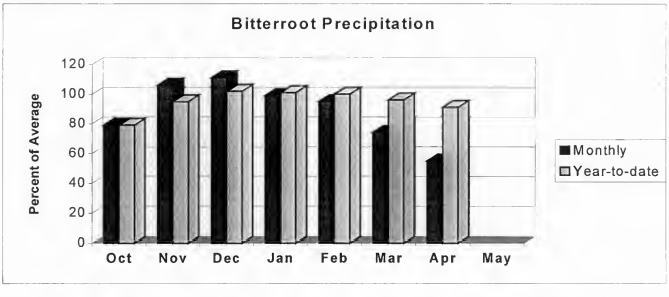
Bitterroot River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Bitterroot River Basin were well below average. Snow water content was 62 percent of average and 54 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1972 and 1974 and minimum swe was in 1987 and 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 56 percent of average and 124 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 50 percent of average and 122 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 91 percent of average and 81 percent of last year.



Painted Rocks Lake storage was 119 percent of average and 147 percent of last year and Como storage was 113 percent of average and 132 percent of last year.

The Bitterroot near Darby is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 7 and May 13 with daily peak flows ranging from 2,800 cfs to 5,000 cfs or 45 to 80 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.7 in the Bitterroot River.

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
WF BITTERROOT nr Conner (2)	MAY-JUL	58	79	93	69	107	128	134
	MAY-SEP	65	89	105	71	121	145	148
BITTERROOT nr Darby	MAY-JUL	222	280	320	74	360	418	435
	MAY-SEP	260	320	360	74	400	460	484
COMO RESERVOIR Inflow	MAY-JUL	43	51	57	82	62	70	69
	MAY-SEP	46	55	61	84	67	76	73
SKALKAHO CK nr Hamilton	MAY-JUL	15.8	25	32	74	39	48	43
	MAY-SEP	20	31	38	76	45	56	50
BITTERROOT at Missoula	MAY-JUL	630	743	820	71	897	1010	1150
	MAY-SEP	709	829	910	72	991	1111	1265

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

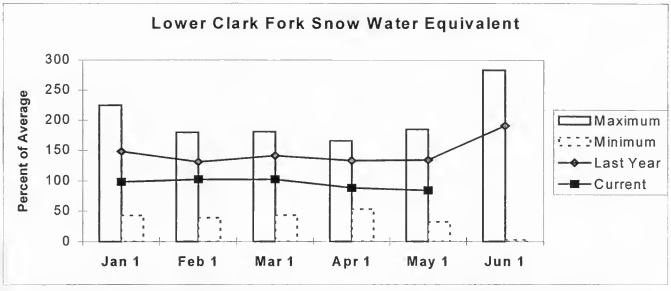
Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
PAINTED ROCKS LAKE	31.7	23.7	16.1	20.0
COMO	34.9	22.8	17.3	20.2

BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
WEST FORK BITTERROOT	3	66	66
EAST SIDE BITTERROOT	5	51	55
WEST SIDE BITTERROOT	3	51	64
BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN	10	54	61

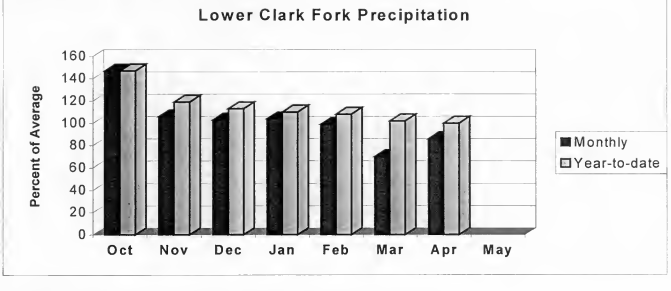
Lower Clark Fork River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Clark Fork River Basin were below above average. Snow water content was 84 percent of average and 62 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1974 and minimum swe was in 1977. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 81 percent of average and 142 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 109 percent of average and 452 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 100 percent of average and 85 percent of last year.



Noxon Rapids storage was 154 percent of average and 99 percent of last year.

The Clark Fork below Missoula is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 9 and May 15 with daily peak flows ranging from 10,000 cfs to 20,000 cfs or 31 percent to 63 percent of average and the Clark Fork at St. Regis is forecast to have daily peak flows ranging from 16,000 cfs to 28,000 cfs or 40 percent to 70 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.9 in the Clark Fork River below Bitterroot River and -0.9 in the Clark Fork River below Flathead River.

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	50% (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
CLARK FORK abv Missoula	MAY-JUL	661	827	940	74	1053	1219	1263
	MAY-SEP	798	975	1095	75	1215	1392	1457
CLARK FORK blw Missoula	MAY-JUL	1319	1582	1760	73	1938	2201	2413
	MAY-SEP	1542	1821	2010	74	2199	2478	2724
CLARK FORK at St. Regis (1)	MAY-JUL	1587	2071	2290	73	2509	2993	3152
	MAY-SEP	1818	2362	2610	73	2858	3402	3561
CLARK FORK nr Plains (1,2)	MAY-JUL	5699	6745	7220	80	7695	8741	9052
	MAY-SEP	6418	7582	8110	81	8638	9802	10080
THOMPSON nr Thompson Falls	MAY-JUL	101	121	135	80	149	169	169
	MAY-SEP	120	141	155	79	169	190	196
PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	MAY-JUL	65	71	75	79	79	84	94
	MAY-SEP	72	78	82	80	86	92	103
CLARK FK at Whitehorse Rpds (1,2)	MAY-JUL	6018	7264	7830	78	8396	9642	10020
	MAY-SEP	6797	8188	8820	79	9452	10843	11200

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
NOXON RAPIDS	335.0	320.6	323.6	208.7

LOWER CLARK FORK RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	This Year as % of Average
LOWER CLARK FORK BASIN	12	62	84

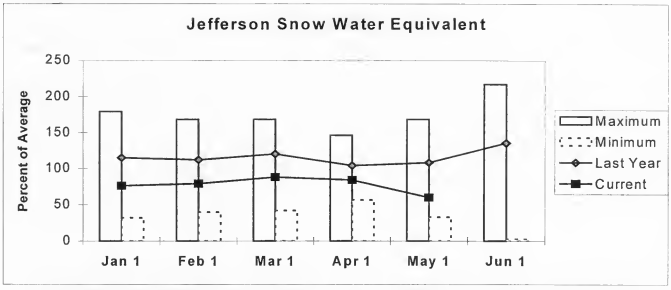
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

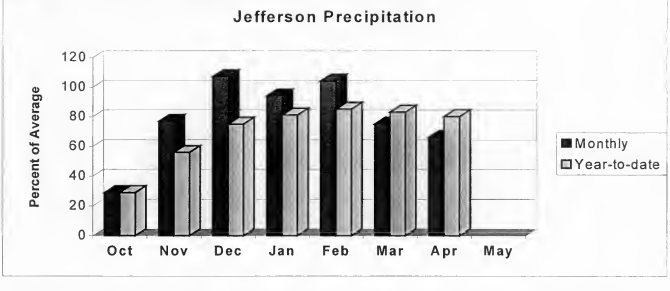
Jefferson River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Jefferson River Basin were well below average. Snow water content was 61 percent of average and 58 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 95 percent of average and 80 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 66 percent of average and 71 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 81 percent of average and 78 percent of last year.



Lima storage was 127 percent of average and 99 percent of last year; Clark Canyon storage was 104 percent of average and 105 percent of last year; and Ruby River storage was 105 percent of average and 101 percent of last year.

The Big Hole near Melrose is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows from May 10 to May 16 with daily peak flows ranging from 1,800 cfs to 3,800 cfs or 22 percent to 47 percent of average; the Ruby River above Ruby Reservoir is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 17 and May 23 with daily peak flows ranging from 85 cfs to 480 cfs or 8 percent to 46 percent of average; the Missouri at Toston is forecast to reach peak flows between May 18 and May 24 with daily peak flow ranging from 7,000 cfs to 13,000 cfs or 37 to 68 percent of average; and inflow into Clark Canyon Reservoir is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 12 and May 19 with daily peak flows ranging from 250 cfs to 800 cfs.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.6 in the Beaverhead River; -2.9 in the Ruby River; -2.9 in the Big Hole River; -2.9 in the Boulder River; and -2.4 in the Jefferson River as a whole.

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LIMA RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	6.7	29	45	62	60	82	72
	MAY-SEP	5.2	30	48	59	65	90	80
BEAVERHEAD RIVER nr Grant	MAY-JUL	7.4	27	50	54	73	108	92
	MAY-SEP	8.0	37	65	57	93	135	115
BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barretts (2)	MAY-JUL	51	65	75	61	85	99	124
	MAY-SEP	72	86	95	61	104	118	155
RUBY RIVER Reservoir Inflow	MAY-JUL	22	28	31	43	35	40	73
	MAY-SEP	32	38	42	47	46	52	89
BIG HOLE RIVER nr Melrose	MAY-JUL	131	229	295	53	361	459	555
	MAY-SEP	149	257	330	54	403	511	612
BOULDER RIVER nr Boulder	MAY-JUL	2.8	26	42	55	57	80	75
	MAY-SEP	3.5	29	46	57	63	89	81
WILLOW CREEK Reservoir Inflow	MAY-JUL	2.1	3.6	7.5	50	11.4	17.3	15.1
	MAY-SEP	2.8	3.8	8.5	49	13.2	20	17.4
JEFFERSON RIVER nr Three Forks (2)	MAY-JUL	102	279	400	53	521	698	749
	MAY-SEP	128	323	455	54	587	782	841

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LIMA	84.0	70.2	70.6	55.1
CLARK CANYON	255.6	169.7	161.4	162.4
RUBY RIVER	38.8	38.0	37.6	36.3

JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
BEAVERHEAD	15	52	62
RUBY	10	71	70
BIGHOLE	15	61	66
BOULDER	7	43	38
JEFFERSON RIVER BASIN	39	57	60

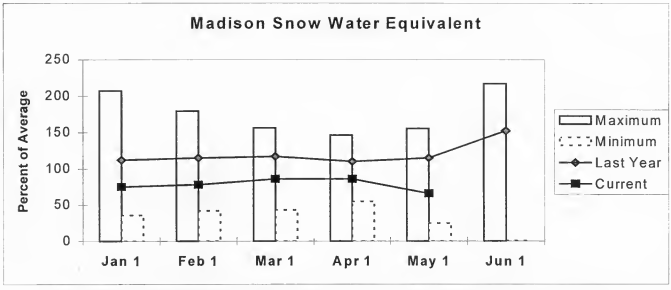
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

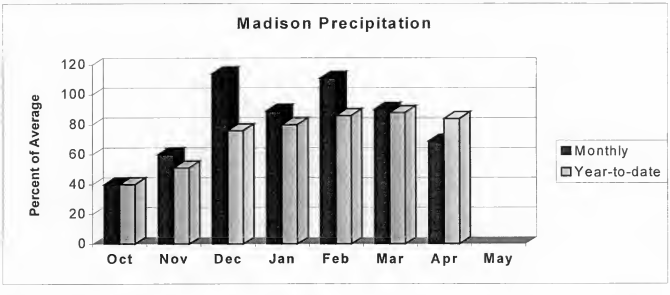
Madison River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Madison River Basin were below average. Snow water content was 66 percent of average and 59 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during April was 69 percent of average and 82 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 84 percent of average and 79 percent of last year.



Ennis Lake storage was 91 percent of average and 97 percent of last year and Hebgen Lake storage was 124 percent of average and 133 percent of last year.

Inflow into Hebgen Reservoir is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 10 and May 16 with daily peak flows ranging from 2,300 cfs to 3,100 cfs or 67 to 90 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.8 for the Madison River.

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
HEBGEN Reservoir Inflow	MAY-JUL	199	232	255	79	278	311	321
	MAY-SEP	278	318	345	81	372	412	428
ENNIS Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	368	417	450	80	483	532	562
	MAY-SEP	493	554	595	81	636	697	731

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
ENNIS LAKE	41.0	32.1	33.2	35.1
HEBGEN LAKE	377.5	305.7	229.2	246.1

MADISON RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
MADISON abv HEBGEN LAKE	6	48	61
MADISON blw BEBGEN LAKE	12	64	65
MADISON RIVER BASIN	18	57	64

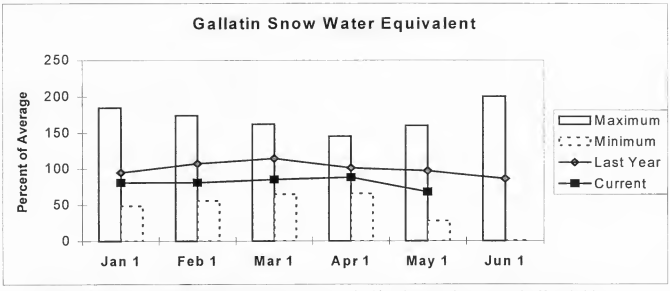
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

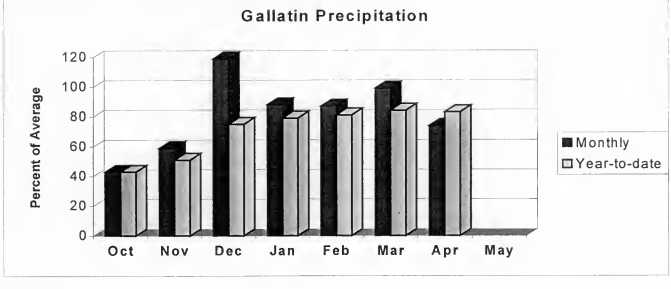
Gallatin River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Gallatin River Basin were well below average. Snow water content was 68 percent of average and 70 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1966; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1981; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1977 and 1987; April maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum was in 1987; May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum in 1987. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 73 percent of average and 102 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 83 percent of average and 81 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 83 percent of average and 87 percent of last year.



Middle Creek storage was 104 percent of average and 92 percent of last year.

The Gallatin River near Gateway is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 26 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 3,400 cfs to 4,400 cfs or 63 to 82 percent of average and the Gallatin River near Logan is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 27 and June 4 with daily peak flows ranging from 2,500 cfs to 4,100 cfs or 45 to 73 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.6 for the Gallatin River.

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GALLATIN RIVER nr Gateway	MAY-JUL	283	317	340	83	363	397	410
	MAY-SEP	341	382	410	85	438	479	485
HYALITE RESERVOIR Inflow	MAY-JUL	13.9	16.2	17.8	85	19.4	22	21
	MAY-SEP	16.3	18.8	21	82	22	25	25
HYALITE CREEK nr Bozeman (2)	MAY-JUL	21	25	29	86	32	36	33
	MAY-SEP	24	30	33	85	37	42	39
GALLATIN RIVER at Logan (2)	MAY-JUL	234	309	360	84	411	486	429
	MAY-SEP	283	371	430	84	489	577	512

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
MIDDLE CREEK	10.2	7.3	7.9	7.0

GALLATIN RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
UPPER GALLATIN	7	72	72
HYALITE	3	87	77
BRIDGER	3	48	46
GALLATIN RIVER BASIN	13	70	68

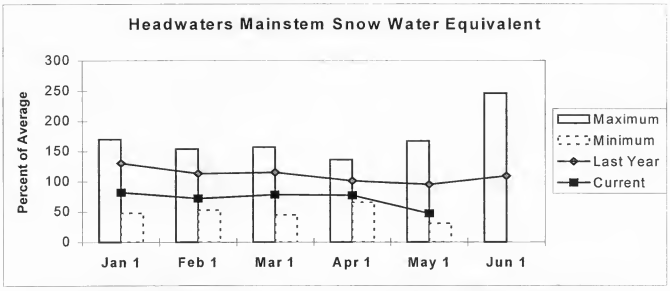
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

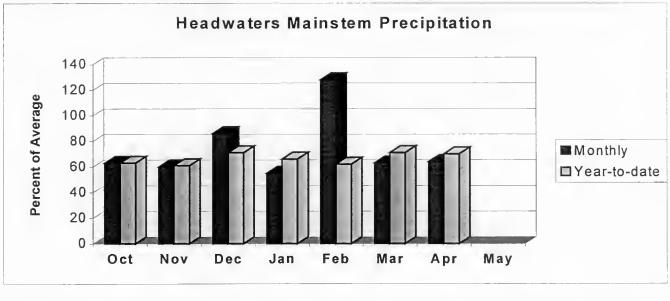
Missouri Mainstem River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Headwaters Missouri Mainstem River Basin were severely below average. Snow water content was 51 percent of average and 51 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1977; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1961; May maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 67 percent of average and 81 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 58 percent of average and 59 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 70 percent of average and 73 percent of last year.



Canyon Ferry Lake storage was 97 percent of average and 107 percent of last year; Helena Valley storage was 119 percent of average and 103 percent of last year; Lake Helena storage was 110 percent of average and 102 percent of last year; Hauser & Helena storage was 105 percent of average and 101 percent of last year; Holter Lake storage was 109 percent of average and the same as last year; and Fort Peck Lake storage was 101 percent of average and 98 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.7 in the Missouri River above Canyon Ferry; -1.5 in the Missouri River below Canyon Ferry; -0.5 in the Missouri River above Fort Peck; and -0.2 in the Missouri River below Fort Peck.

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
MISSOURI RIVER at Toston (2)	MAY-JUL	521	902	1160	67	1418	1799	1730
	MAY-SEP	891	1101	1410	68	1719	1905	2071
PRICKLY PEAR CREEK nr Clancy	MAY-JUL	3.0	4.1	9.5	48	14.9	23	20
	MAY-SEP	4.6	5.8	12.0	50	18.2	27	24
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	MAY-JUL	254	308	345	78	382	436	441
	MAY-SEP	296	352	390	80	428	484	489
MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton (2)	MAY-JUL	364	1070	1550	60	2030	2736	2597
	MAY-SEP	1530	1722	1990	62	2509	2901	3188
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	MAY-JUL	140	205	250	65	295	360	387
	MAY-SEP	156	221	265	62	309	374	428
MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle (2)	MAY-JUL	440	1220	1750	58	2280	3060	3030
	MAY-SEP	1863	2082	2210	61	2802	3396	3652
MISSOURI RIVER nr Landusky (2)	MAY-JUL	579	1366	1900	58	2434	3221	3279
	MAY-SEP	2060	2258	2400	61	2979	3724	3962
MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck (2)	MAY-JUL	333	1245	1865	56	2485	3397	3327
	MAY-SEP	1777	2080	2220	59	2893	3479	3781
LAKE SAKAKAWEA Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	2809	4724	6025	73	7326	9241	8209
	MAY-SEP	5312	5664	7020	73	8376	9755	9658

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
CANYON FERRY LAKE	2043.0	1449.0	1359.0	1501.0
HELENA VALLEY	9.2	8.9	8.6	7.5
LAKE HELENA	10.4	11.1	10.9	10.1
HAUSER & HELENA	61.9	63.6	63.0	60.4
HOLTER LAKE	81.9	80.8	80.5	73.9
FORT PECK LAKE (MAF)	18.9	15.1	15.4	15.0

MISSOURI MAINSTEM RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
HEADWATERS MAINSTEM	9	52	47
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	12	65	57
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	14	51	62
MAINSTEM ab FT PECK RES	34	55	57
MILK RIVER BASIN	4	0	0
MISSOURI MAINSTEM BASIN	37	55	56

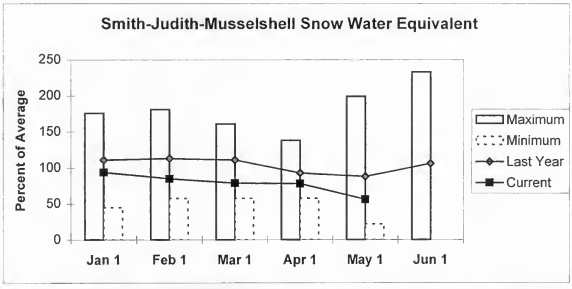
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

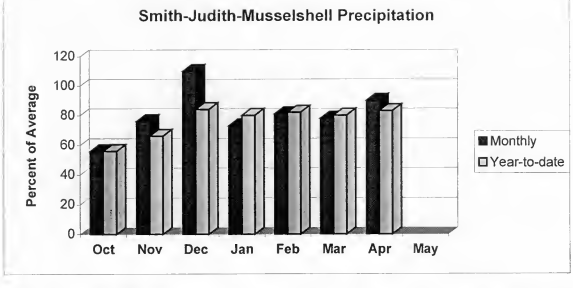
Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Smith-Judith-Musselshell River Basins were well below average. Snow water content in the Smith River Basin was 53 percent of average and 54 percent of last year; in the Judith River Basin was 69 percent of average and 79 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell Basin River was 38 percent of average and 48 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; March maximum swe was in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1987; April maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1992; and May maximum swe was in 1970 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during April in the Smith-Belts was 87 percent of average and 99 percent of last Mountain and valley precipitation during April in the Smith-Belts was 72 percent of average and 83 percent of last year; in the Judith was 107 percent of average and 94 percent of last year; and in the Musselshell was 92 percent of average and 64 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 83 percent of average and 79 percent of last year.



Smith River storage was 70 percent of average and 65 percent of last year; Bair storage was 50 percent of average and 60 percent of last year; Martinsdale storage was 87 percent of average and 74 percent of last year; and Deadman's Basin was 101 percent of average and 84 percent of last year.

Sheep Creek near White Sulphur Springs is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 3 and May 9 with daily peak flows ranging from 130 cfs to 200 cfs or 61 to 94 percent of average; and the Smith River near Eagle Creek is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 3 and May 9.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.7 in the Smith River and -3.7 in the Musselshell River.

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
SHEEP CREEK nr White Sulphur Spgs.	MAY-JUL	10.5	12.9	14.5	89	16.1	18.5	16.3
	MAY-SEP	12.6	15.5	17.5	91	19.5	22	19.2
SMITH RIVER abv Eagle Creek	MAY-JUL	76	105	125	83	145	174	150
	MAY-SEP	93	130	155	84	180	217	185
NF MUSSELSHELL nr Delpine	MAY-JUL	0.89	2.15	3.00	79	3.85	5.11	3.80
	MAY-SEP	1.30	2.79	3.80	83	4.81	6.30	4.60
SF MUSSELSHELL abv Martinsdale	MAY-JUL	6.9	8.4	22	47	35	54	46
	MAY-SEP	7.5	10.3	24	48	38	58	50
MUSSELSHELL at Harlowton (2)	MAY-JUL	3.9	21	33	49	45	62	67
	MAY-SEP	2.7	21	34	48	47	65	70
MUSSELSHELL nr Roundup (2)	MAY-JUL	5.9	11.7	24	29	36	54	84
	MAY-SEP	6.0	10.3	23	27	36	55	85

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
SMITH RIVER	10.6	6.4	9.9	9.1
NEWLAN CREEK		NO REPORT		
BAIR	7.0	2.9	4.8	5.8
MARTINSDALE	23.1	10.8	14.6	12.4
DEADMAN'S BASIN	72.2	54.9	65.5	54.4

SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
SMITH	6	54	53
JUDITH	6	80	70
MUSSELSHELL	5	48	38
SMITH-JUDITH-MUSSELSHELL	12	65	57

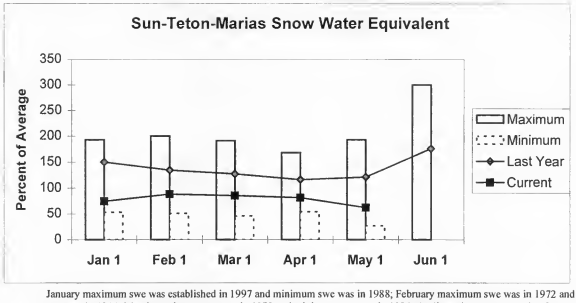
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

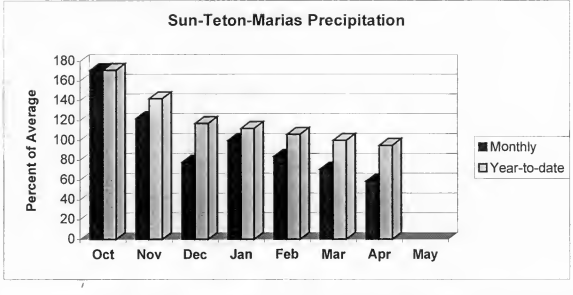
Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the Sun-Teton-Marias River Basins were well below average. Snow water content in the Sun River Basin was 61 percent of average and 57 percent of last year; in the Teton River Basin was 51 percent of average and 36 percent of last year; and in the Marias River Basin was 63 percent of average and 50 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1984; May maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum was in 1982 and minimum swe was in 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during April in the Sun was 40 percent of average and 37 percent of last year; in the Teton was 53 percent of average and 54 percent of last year; and in the Marias was 68 percent of average and 77 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 95 percent of average and 88 percent of last year.



Gibson storage was 143 percent of average and 136 percent of last year; Pishkun storage was 116 percent of average and 112 percent of last year; Willow Creek storage was 33 percent of average and 36 percent of last year; Lower Two Medicine Lake storage was 139 percent of average and 106 percent of last year; Four Horns Lake storage was 95 percent of average and 32 percent of last year; Swift storage was 105 percent of average and 182 percent of last year; Lake Frances storage was 38 percent of average and 47 percent of last year; and Lake Elwell (Tiber) storage was 128 percent of average and 114 percent of last year.

Inflow into Gibson Reservoir is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 10 and June 19 with daily peak flows ranging from 4,400 cfs to 6,100 cfs; inflow into Swift Reservoir is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 12 and May 20 with daily peak flows ranging from 380 cfs to 610 cfs.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.2 in the Sun River; -3.0 in the Teton River; -2.7 in the Birch/Dupuyer Creeks; and -0.3 in the Marias River.

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	Chance Of Exceeding * (% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
GIBSON Reservoir Inflow	MAY-JUL	254	308	345	78	382	436	441
	MAY-SEP	296	352	390	80	428	484	489
TWO MEDICINE RIVER nr Browning	MAY-JUL	61	99	125	67	151	189	187
	MAY-SEP	71	109	135	68	161	199	200
BADGER CREEK nr Browning (2)	MAY-JUL	40	59	72	77	85	104	93
	MAY-SEP	53	73	87	79	101	121	110
SWIFT RESERVOIR Inflow	MAY-JUL	23	37	48	78	58	72	61
	MAY-SEP	30	46	57	78	68	84	73
DUPUYER CREEK nr Valier	MAY-JUL	1.6	2.2	8.0	61	14.0	23	13.1
	MAY-SEP	2.3	3.0	9.4	63	15.8	25	15.0
CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	MAY-JUL	38	51	59	79	67	80	75
	MAY-SEP	42	56	65	77	74	88	84
MARIAS RIVER nr Shelby (2)	MAY-JUL	140	205	250	65	295	360	387
	MAY-SEP	156	221	265	62	309	374	428
TETON nr Dutton	MAY-JUL	3.5	11.8	25	51	38	58	49
	MAY-SEP	4.7	18.6	32	54	44	63	58

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
GIBSON	99.1	81.8	60.0	57.2
PISHKUN	32.0	29.4	26.2	25.4
WILLOW CREEK	32.2	8.0	22.4	24.6
LOWER TWO MEDICINE LAKE	11.9	12.4	11.7	8.9
FOUR HORNS LAKE	19.2	12.1	38.3	12.8
SWIFT	30.0	19.3	10.6	18.3
LAKE FRANCES	112.0	29.1	61.5	77.6
LAKE ELWELL (TIBER)	1347.0	782.9	687.2	611.4

SUN-TETON-MARIAS RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
SUN	7	57	61
TETON	4	36	51
MARIAS	6	51	64
SUN-TETON-MARIAS	14	51	62

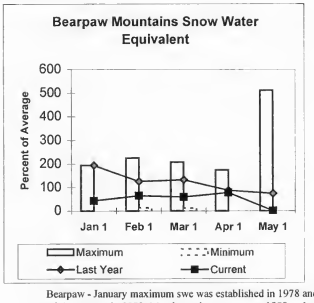
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

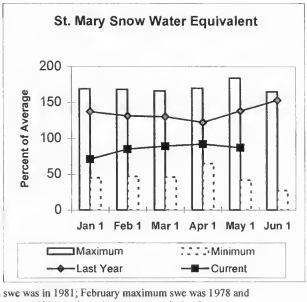
The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

St. Mary and Milk River Basins

Snowpack conditions in the St. Mary and Milk River Basins were below average. Snow water content in the Saint Mary River Basin was 87 percent of average and 62 percent of last year. The Milk River Basin (Bearpaw Mountains) was melted out.

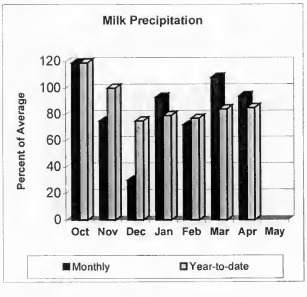


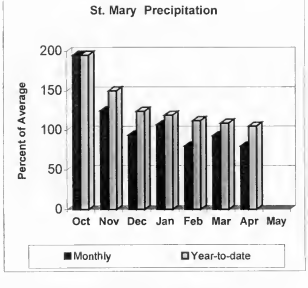


Bearpaw - January maximum swe was established in 1978 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was 1978 and minimum was in 1973; March maximum swe was 1978 and minimum swe was 1981; April maximum swe was in 1975 and minimum swe was in 1983; May maximum swe was 1975 and the minimum has occurred in several years. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

St. Mary - January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1972 and minimum swe was in 1992; May maximum swe was in 19972 and minimum swe was in 1977; and June maximum swe was in 1991 and minimum swe was 1992. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation in the St. Mary River Basin during April was 80 percent of average and 133 percent of last year; and in the Milk River Basin during April was 94 percent of average and 73 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 97 percent of average and 84 percent of last year.





Lake Sherburne storage was 38 percent of average and 76 percent of last year; Fresno storage was 76 percent of average and 125 percent of last year; and Nelson storage was 85 percent of average and 79 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -1.7 for the Milk River.

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter =====>> Chance of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
LAKE SHERBURNE Inflow	MAY-JUL	61	69	75	77	81	89	98
	MAY-SEP	74	84	90	78	96	106	115
ST. MARY RIVER nr Babb (2)	MAY-JUL	230	263	285	77	307	340	371
	MAY-SEP	269	308	335	76	362	401	439
ST. MARY RIVER at US/CAN Border (2)	MAY-JUL	256	300	330	77	360	404	429
	MAY-SEP	303	355	390	77	425	477	506
ST. MARY RESERVOIR Inflow (2,3)	MAY-SEP				-0			553
MILK RIVER at Western Crossing (3)	MAY-JUL	2.1	4.8	7.4	31	10.0	14.3	24
	MAY-SEP	2.7	6.0	8.9	33	12.0	17.1	27
MILK RIVER @ Milk River, AB (2,3)	MAY-JUL	5.6	9.4	13.5	36	17.6	24	38
	MAY-SEP	6.1	11.5	15.8	39	21	27	41
MILK RIVER at East Cross. (2,3)	MAY-JUL	7.2	12.2	17.2	38	22	32	45
	MAY-SEP	9.0	11.5	20	38	27	39	53
BEAVER CREEK near Havre	MAY-JUL	0.16	0.47	2.14	27	4.47	7.89	7.80

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
LAKE SHERBURNE	64.3	7.9	10.4	20.8
FRESNO	127.0	72.4	58.0	95.8
BEAVER CREEK		NO REPORT		
NELSON	66.8	36.1	45.5	42.7

ST. MARY and MILK RIVER BASINS
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
ST. MARY	8	63	87
BEARPAW MOUNTAINS	4	0	0
CYPRESS HILLS, CANADA	0	0	0
MILK RIVER BASIN	4	0	0
ST. MARY & MILK BASINS	12	63	85

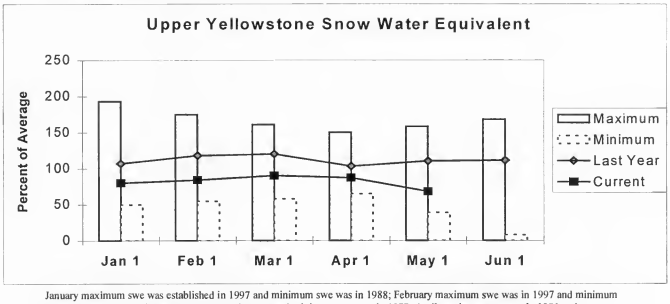
+ 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

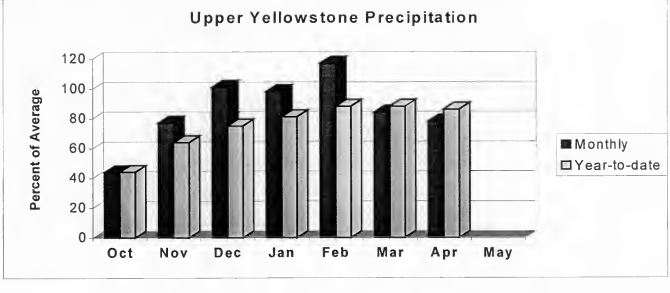
Upper Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Upper Yellowstone River Basin were well below average. Snow water content was 68 percent of average and 61 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1988; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; March maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1971 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1987; and June maximum swe was 1982 and minimum swe was in 1987 and 1994. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain precipitation during April was 78 percent of average and 73 percent of last year. Valley precipitation during April was 79 percent of average and 46 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 86 percent of average and 79 percent of last year.



Mystic Lake storage was 0 percent of average and 0 percent of last year and Cooney storage was 113 percent of average and 103 percent of last year.

The Yellowstone River at Corwin Springs is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 23 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 9,800 cfs to 15,000 cfs or 56 percent to 86 percent of average; the Yellowstone at Livingston is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 23 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 10,500 cfs to 16,500 cfs or 51 percent to 80 of average; the Boulder near Big Timber is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 23 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 3,100 cfs to 4,700 cfs or 59 to 90 percent of average; the Stillwater near Absarokee is forecast to reach peak flows between May 23 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 2,900 cfs to 5,500 cfs or 44 to 83 percent of average; the Clarks Fork near Belfry is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 23 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 4,500 cfs to 7,000 cfs or 58 to 91 percent of average; the Yellowstone at Billings is forecast to reach snow melt peak flows between May 23 and June 3 with daily peak flows ranging from 19,000 cfs to 30,000 cfs or 44 to 70 percent of average.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -2.1 in the Yellowstone River above Livingston; -3.9 in the Shields River; -2.3 in the Boulder River; -2.0 in the Stillwater River; -2.2 in the Rock/Red lodge Creeks; -1.9 in the Clarks Fork River; and -2.1 in the Yellowstone River above Bighorn River.

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ====== Wetter ======>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
YELLOWSTONE at Lake Outlet	MAY-JUL	271	324	360	67	396	449	538
	MAY-SEP	393	448	485	64	522	577	756
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Spgs.	MAY-JUL	992	1080	1140	75	1200	1288	1516
	MAY-SEP	1230	1316	1375	75	1434	1520	1844
YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	MAY-JUL	1104	1215	1290	74	1365	1476	1737
	MAY-SEP	1341	1477	1570	74	1663	1799	2123
SHIELDS RIVER nr Livingston	MAY-JUL	27	40	68	51	96	137	134
	MAY-SEP	30	47	80	53	113	161	151
BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	MAY-JUL	195	225	245	76	265	295	322
	MAY-SEP	212	244	265	76	286	318	350
MYSTIC LAKE Reservoir Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	45	51	55	92	59	65	60
	MAY-SEP	59	65	70	91	75	81	77
STILLWATER RIVER nr Absarokee (2)	MAY-JUL	290	344	380	80	416	470	474
	MAY-SEP	354	411	450	79	489	546	569
CLARKS FORK RIVER nr Belfry	MAY-JUL	356	403	435	86	467	514	508
	MAY-SEP	391	441	475	84	509	559	566
COONEY RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	2.1	15.1	24	63	33	46	38
	MAY-SEP	10.1	23	32	65	41	54	49
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	MAY-JUL	1851	2297	2600	78	2903	3349	3320
	MAY-SEP	2649	2862	3190	81	3518	4000	3954

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
MYSTIC LAKE	21.0	0.0	0.7	1.9
COONEY	27.4	22.0	21.3	19.4

UPPER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
YELLOWSTONE ab LIVINGSTON	16	62	72
SHIELDS	5	51	49
BOULDER-STILLWATER	4	65	75
CLARK'S FORK-ROCK CREEK	13	65	71
UPPER YELLOWSTONE BASIN	34	61	68

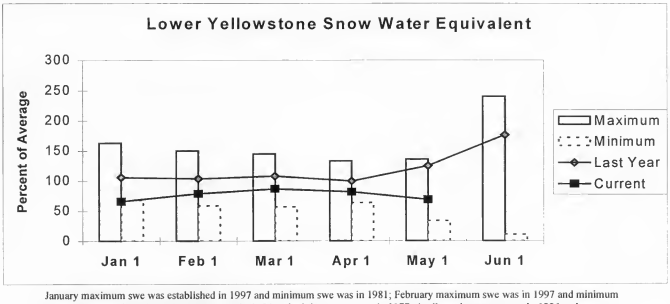
* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

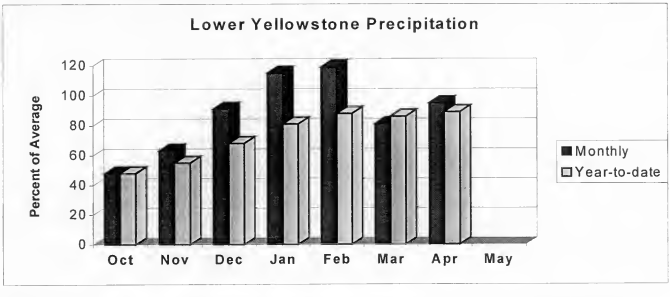
Lower Yellowstone River Basin

Snowpack conditions in the Lower Yellowstone River Basin, in Wyoming, were below average. Snow water content was 70 percent of average and 54 percent of last year.



January maximum swe was established in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; February maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; March maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 1977; April maximum swe was in 1986 and minimum swe was in 1981; May maximum swe was in 1997 and minimum swe was in 1981; and June maximum swe was in 1995 and minimum swe was in 1994. Average is for the period 1961 through 1990.

Mountain and valley precipitation during April was 95 percent of average and 48 percent of last year. Mountain and valley water year precipitation, beginning October 1, 1999, was 89 percent of average and 67 percent of last year.



Bighorn Lake storage was 111 percent of average and 114 percent of last year and Tongue River storage was 112 percent of average and 151 percent of last year.

Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) was -0.8 in the Bighorn River below Bighorn Lake; -1.4 in the Little Bighorn River; -1.5 in the Yellowstone River below Bighorn River; -1.3 in the Tongue River; and -2.7 in the Powder River.

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Streamflow Forecasts - May 1, 2000

Forecast Point	Forecast Period	<<====== Drier ====== Future Conditions ======= Wetter ====>> Chance Of Exceeding * 90% (1000AF)	70% (1000AF)	50% (Most Probable) (1000AF)	(% AVG.)	30% (1000AF)	10% (1000AF)	30-Yr Avg. (1000AF)
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings (2)	MAY-JUL	1851	2297	2600	78	2903	3349	3320
	MAY-SEP	2649	2862	3190	81	3518	4000	3954
BIGHORN RIVER nr St. Xavier (2)	MAY-JUL	671	867	1000	66	1133	1329	1508
	MAY-SEP	781	977	1110	66	1243	1439	1673
LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER nr Hardin	MAY-JUL	45	72	90	76	108	135	118
	MAY-SEP	51	80	100	74	120	149	135
TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR Inflow (2)	MAY-JUL	105	150	180	87	210	255	208
	MAY-SEP	120	168	200	88	232	280	227
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City (2)	MAY-JUL	2424	3268	3842	78	4416	5260	4957
	MAY-SEP	3268	3789	4420	76	5051	5427	5835
POWDER RIVER at Moorehead	MAY-JUL	8.0	70	112	62	154	216	182
	MAY-SEP	24	87	130	64	173	236	204
POWDER RIVER near Locate	MAY-JUL	42	86	115	55	144	188	211
	MAY-SEP	33	91	130	56	169	227	234
YELLOWSTONE RIVER nr Sidney (2)	MAY-JUL	1897	3149	4000	74	4851	6103	5383
	MAY-SEP	3322	3622	4660	74	5698	5955	6268

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Reservoir Storage (1000 AF) - End of April

Reservoir	Usable Capacity	*** Usable Storage *** This Year	Last Year	Avg
BIGHORN LAKE	1356.0	877.6	771.3	789.2
TONGUE RIVER	68.0	41.1	27.3	36.6

LOWER YELLOWSTONE RIVER BASIN
Watershed Snowpack Analysis - May 1, 2000

Watershed	Number of Data Sites	This Year as % of Last Yr	Average
WIND RIVER (Wyoming)	16	34	54
SHOSHONE RIVER (Wyoming)	7	55	70
BIGHORN RIVER (Wyoming)	19	59	71
LITTLE BIGHORN (Wyoming)	3	99	88
TONGUE RIVER (Wyoming)	9	81	83
POWDER RIVER (Wyoming)	6	56	62
LOWER YELLOWSTONE BASIN (	40	53	68

* 90%, 70%, 30%, and 10% chances of exceeding are the probabilities that the actual volume will exceed the volumes in the table.

The average is computed for the 1961-1990 base period.

(1) - The values listed under the 10% and 90% Chance of Exceeding are actually 5% and 95% exceedance levels.
(2) - The value is natural volume - actual volume may be affected by upstream water management.

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Montana
Basin Outlook Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bozeman, MT